



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION IX

75 Hawthorne Street

San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

JUN 16 2016

**OFFICE OF THE
REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR**

The Honorable Congresswoman Jackie Speier
U.S. House of Representatives
2465 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Speier:

Thank you for your letter of May 25, 2016 to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in support of the San Francisco Bay Water Quality Improvement Fund. EPA administers this competitive grant program to support the protection and restoration of San Francisco Bay.

Approximately \$5 million is currently available in fiscal year 2016 funding to support high quality projects to improve water quality and wetlands in San Francisco Bay and its watersheds. In response to our most recent request for proposals, EPA received 11 proposals on May 27, 2016 requesting approximately \$14.5 million. We expect to complete our review process and notify applicants of final funding decisions by August 2016.

The San Francisco Bay Water Quality Improvement Fund began in 2008 and has invested over \$40 million in 58 projects involving over 70 partners who are contributing an additional \$149 million to improve water quality and restore wetlands. I appreciate your interest in funding projects that protect and restore San Francisco Bay watersheds.

If you have further questions, please contact me or refer staff to our Congressional Liaison, Brent Maier, at 415-947-4256.

Sincerely,

Alexis Strauss 16 June 2016
Alexis Strauss
Acting Regional Administrator

Cc: Brian Perkins, District Director
155 Bovet Rd, Suite 780
San Mateo, CA 94402